

Application Serial No. 10/626131
Examiner: V.N. Sakran
Art Unit: 3677

PATENT
M&G No. 08688.0324US01

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of allowable claim 2. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, claims 3 and 7 have been amended to correct claim dependencies in view of the amended claim 1. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-4, 7 and 8 have been considered allowable. Claims 1 and 3-10 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1,5,6,9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art Figure 1 in view of Liu (US6571438). The rejection is rendered moot, as claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the features of allowable claim 2.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.


In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any further questions arise, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the number listed below. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.



Date: August 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 336-4638


Michael D. Schumann
Reg. No. 30,422
MDS/BAW/slr